

BEFORE THE
DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Petition for)
Termination of Probation of:)

CRAIG E. SWANSON)

Respondent.)
_____)

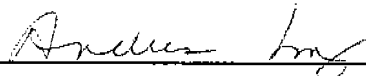
OAH No. N-9612096

DECISION

The attached Proposed Decision of the Administrative Law Judge is hereby adopted by the Medical Board of California as its Decision in the above-entitled matter.

This Decision shall become effective on April 21, 1997.

IT IS SO ORDERED March 20, 1997.



ANABEL ANDERSON-IMBERT, M.D., CHAIR, PANEL B
DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY

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PROPOSED DECISION

On January 21, 1997, in Sacramento, California, Muriel Evens, Administrative Law Judge, Office of Administrative Hearings, State of California, heard this matter.

Thomas McCrackin, Deputy Attorney General, represented the complainant.

Respondent was present and represented himself.

Evidence was received, the record was closed and the matter was submitted.

FINDINGS OF FACT

I

Effective March 30, 1994, pursuant to stipulation, respondent's license to practice medicine in California was revoked. The revocation was stayed and respondent placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with certain terms and conditions.

The disciplinary action was based on respondent's care of two patients. In the case of patient T.A., respondent was grossly negligent in instituting Heparin for probable stroke prior to performing a CT scan of the brain. In the case of the second patient, E.P., respondent was grossly negligent for failing to obtain a CT where the symptoms suggested possible

stroke. He was also found incompetent in his care of E.P. by instituting Heparin and Coumadin without having first obtained a CT scan of the brain.

II

The incidents in Finding I occurred in 1990 within five days of each other and shortly after respondent arrived to practice in Colusa. In July, 1991, respondent began a third year internal medicine residency at the University of California, Davis. He successfully completed the program in June 1992. He has updated his knowledge of treating internal medicine patients and understands the mistakes he made treating the stroke patients.

Respondent is in compliance with his Board probation and has completed more than 200 hours of continuing education since the start of his probation. Although not required to do so after the first year of probation, respondent continued to have his files monitored.

Respondent is now in solo practice and would like his probation terminated to reduce malpractice insurance rates and resume a hospital practice.

III

The public health and safety no longer require respondent to continue on probation to the Board.


DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

Respondent has shown substantial rehabilitation. The public health and safety no longer require respondent to continue on probation to the Board.

ORDER

Respondent's order of probation is terminated and his license to practice medicine in California is fully restored.

Dated: February 13, 1997



MURIEL EVENS
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings